

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00085 112139Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 EB-07 MCT-01 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00
SY-05 /046 W
-----112205Z 009787 /63
R 111945Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2075

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 0085

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EAIR, ASEC, BB
SUBJECT: AIRPORT SECURITY

REF A) STATE 76 313995 (B) 76 BRIDGETOWN 1705

1. RE BARBADOS: DESPITE EARLIER GOB STATEMENTS TO
FAA OFFICIAL AND EMBOFF THAT GOB COULD NOT AFFORD
EXPENSE OF PHYSICAL ALTERNATIONS TO LOCAL AIRPORT (REF B),
SECURITY RELATED CHANGES ARE IN FACT BEING MADE. GIVEN
CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN FAA/PUERTO RICO AND AIRPORT
MANAGEMENT HERE, EMBASSY FEELS FORMAL SURVEY HERE PROBABLY
UNNECESSARY. SUGGEST HECTOR GONZALES (FAA/PR) CONTINUE
HIS INFORMAL CONTACT WITH AIRPORT MANAGER GIBBONS IN
ORDER TO ASSESS COMPLENESS AND EFFICACY OF IMPROVEMENTS
NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN. ANY EMEGING DEFICIENCIES CAN BE
BROUGHT TO GIBBONS' ATTENTION IN THAT MANNER. (PLEASE
REMEBER THAT TO SUGGEST A US\$5000 SCREENING DEVICE TO
THE GOB IS LIKE SUGGESTING THAT THE USG SPEND \$20-30
MILLION. THE GOB IS IN SERIOUS FINANCIAL STRAITS AND
CANNOT QUICKLY OR EASILY BE CONVINCED TO EXPEND SUCH A
SUM FOR ANY PURPOSE.)

2. AS FOR THE ASSOCIATED STATES, BVI, MONTSERRAT,
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ANGUILLA AND GRENADA, WE SEE NO PROBLEM WITH A SURVEY
BUT NEITHER DO WE SEE ANY CERTAINTY OF REAL BENEFIT
UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO ASSIST FINANCIALLY AS WELL AS
TECHNICALLY. MUCH MORE THAN BARBADOS, THE SMALLER ISLANDS
SIMPLY CANNOT EASILY SPEND EVEN MINIMUM SUMS NEEDED TO
IMPROVE AIRPORT SECURITY. EMBASSY IS CONTACTING CIVAIR
OFFICIALS IN ISLANDS AND WILL REPORT THEIR REACTIONS

ASAP.

3. FYI: GRENADA HAS RECENTLY BEGUN PRE-BOARDING SCREENING
OF ALL PASSENGERS. UNFORTUNATELY, PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS
DO NOT PROVIDE ANYTHING APPROACHING A STERILE AREA
CONCEPT AND HENCE EFFORT IS VIRTUALLY MEANINGLESS.
BRITTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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